GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1654
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
OPERATING AIRLINES IN NON PROFITABLE SECTORS
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the private domestic airlines are operating only on important and profitable sectors;

(b) whether aviation growth has not been channelised to Tier II and III cities by private operators;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that Tier II and III cities are also covered by private operators?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b),(c) and (d):- Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. Subject to these guidelines, airlines are free to provide air services to any place depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As per these guidelines, all operators are required to deploy in Categoy II at least 10% of the capacity deployed by them on routes in Category I and o f the capacity thus required to be deployed on Category I I routes, a t least 10% would be deployed on services or segments thereof operated exclusively within the North-Eastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep. The operator is also required to deploy in Category III, at least 50% of th capacity deployed on routes in Category I.

All scheduled domestic airlines who operate on Category I routes viz. Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, Jet Lite, Air Deccan, Kingfisher, Spciejet, Go Air and IndiGo operate on Category II and IIA routes to meet the requirements of route dispersal guidelines.

Government has also finalized the policy of Regional Airlines which would also augment the connectivity of Tier II and III cities.